

In the Claims:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1, 3, and 7 have been amended.

Claims 2,4, and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 9 has been added.

1. (Currently Amended) Rapid coupling device, in particular for use in compressed air lines, wherein the rapid coupling device comprises a coupling plug-in and a receiving coupling socket body, wherein the coupling socket body is made from one single piece, wherein the coupling socket body is adapted to receive the coupling plug-in and the coupling socket body further comprises

- a valve located inside the coupling socket body;
- a valve seat arranged in the coupling socket body;
- a valve spring urging the valve into a closed position when the coupling socket body is not coupled to the coupling plug-in;
- a gasket/seal between the valve and the valve seat;
- locking means arranged in the coupling socket body for locking the coupling plug-in into secure coupling with the coupling socket body;
- a locking release means slidably arranged on the outside of the coupling socket body and a spring between the locking release means and the coupling socket body

influencing the locking release means into a locking position,
wherein the valve is retained in the coupling socket body by an O-ring.

2. (Cancelled) Without prejudice.

3. (Currently Amended) Coupling according to claim 1, wherein the valve ~~valves~~ travels in an interior cylindrical sliding surface provided in an interior wall of the coupling socket body is less than 10 mm, ~~preferably less than 5 mm.~~

4. (Cancelled) Without prejudice.

5. (Currently Amended) Coupling according to claim 1, wherein the valve is made from a resilient material and ~~that~~ the diameter of at least a part of the valve is larger than an interior diameter of the socket body.

6. (Currently Amended) Coupling socket for use in compressed air lines, wherein the socket comprises locking means for retaining a plug-in device, valve means, connection means to a means for conveying compressed air, wherein the socket further comprises a socket body which is a single piece.

7. (Currently Amended) Method for assembling a rapid coupling socket device, where the device comprises a coupling socket body; a valve located inside the coupling socket body; a valve spring urging the valve into a closed position when not coupled to a coupling plug-in; a gasket/seal between the valve and a valve seat arranged in the coupling socket body; locking means arranged in the socket for locking a coupling plug-in into secure coupling with the socket; a locking release means slidably arranged on the outside of the socket body and influenced by a spring into a locking position and that the assembly is as follows:

- a.) the valve spring is inserted inside the socket body;
- b.) the valve is inserted and fitted inside an inner cylindrical sliding surface provided in an interior wall of the socket body and fitted partly inside the valve spring;
- c.) a first O-ring is arranged in an inner gasket groove;
- d.) a second O-ring is arranged in an outer gasket groove;
- e.) a ventilating ring is arranged about the outside of the socket body;
- f.) a locking spring is arranged about an outside surface of the socket body and in contact with the ventilating ring;
- g.) a ball ring for retaining locking balls is arranged in contact with the locking spring together with at least two locking balls and, optionally, two locking pins;
- h.) a ball lock ring and

i.) an outer locking ring encapsulating all items is
arranged on the outside of the socket body,
wherein ~~all parts~~ the valve spring, the valve, the first O-ring
and the second O-ring are mounted through ~~the~~ an opening in the
coupling ~~opening in the~~ socket body.

8. (Cancelled) Without prejudice.

9. (New) Coupling according to claim 1, wherein the valves travel in an interior cylindrical sliding surface provided in an interior wall of the socket body is less than 5 mm.